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Jc926 U.S. PTO  
09/686680  
10/11/00

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of: **Takashi HONDA et al.**

Filed : **Concurrently herewith**

For : **SWITCHING METHOD FOR BIDIRECTIONAL  
LINE SWITCHED RING AND NODE APPARATUS  
USED IN THE RING**

Serial No. : **Concurrently herewith**

Assistant Commissioner of Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

S I R:

In order to comply with discretionary regulations 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98, attached hereto is a copy of Form PTO-1449 and copies of the documents listed thereon. These documents contain information which the Examiner may consider to be important in deciding whether to issue a patent in the instant application.

As this document is written in a language other than English, English language abstract is annexed thereto explaining its relevancy in accordance with 37 CFR §1.98(a)(3).

As this Statement is being filed prior to issuance of a first Office Action, no fee is due.

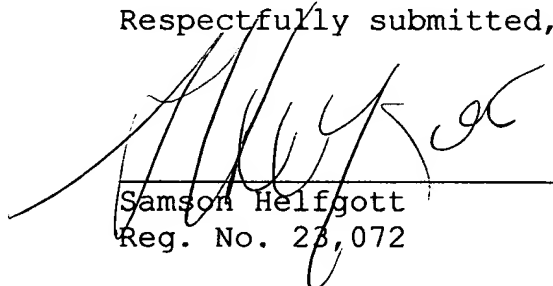
The present Disclosure Statement is being submitted in compliance with 37 CFR 1.56 as an Examiner might consider any cited document important in deciding whether to allow the application to issue as a patent, but the citation of each document is not to be construed as an admission that such

document is necessarily relevant or prior art. No representation is intended that the cited documents represent the results of a complete search, and it is anticipated that the Examiner in the normal course of examination, will make an independent search and will determine the best prior art consistent with 37 CFR 1.104 (a) and 1.106 (b), and in the course of such search will review for relevance every document cited on the attached form even if not initialed.

Early and favorable consideration is respectfully solicited.

Any fee due with this paper, not fully covered by an enclosed check, may be charged on Deposit Account 08-1634.

Respectfully submitted,



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DOCKET NO.: FUJI17.859  
DATE: October 11, 2000

Filed Via Express Mail  
Rec. No.: EL522335530US  
On: October 11, 2000  
By: Lydia Gonzalez  
Any fee due as a result of this paper,  
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